CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — Extensions of Remarks

ceived suspended sentences for failing to report the plot, and three were acquitted.

ARRESTS OF OFFICERS

The junta is apparently increasingly nervous about opposition from supporters of King Constantine; this may indicate that such opposition is becoming more active, or it may simply reflect an expectation that the provisions of the new draft constitution will arouse resentment among royalists. In any case, the government has engaged in a renewed crackdown on active and retired officers believed to support the King. On July 10 another fifty-eight high-ranking officers were dismissed from the much-purged army; they included three major generals, sixteen brigadier-generals, fourteen colonels, and twenty-five lieutenant-colonels. The days preceding and following this purge saw the arrest of a number of prominent officers who had been dismissed from the army for supporting the King in December. They included Lieutenant-Generals Constantine Peridis and Constantine Kollias, both former Army Corps commanders, and Brigadier-General Ioannis Demestichas.

AND JOURNALISTS

The latter part of June and the beginning of July also saw the arrest of a number of prominent journalists. George Cavounidis, who had been appointed in 1947 as head of the government's foreign press office, and had served under every subsequent government until the coup, was arrested on or about June 20 and exiled to an island some ten days later. On June 28 Constantine Kalligas, a member of the editorial staff of the leading Athens daily Vima (a Lambrakis publication), was also arrested; he was a correspondent for the French newspaper Paris-Presse. About the same time Miss Lena Doukidou, a member of the editorial staff of Eleni Vlachou's picture magazine Eikones, was also arrested. So was Constantine Hadjlargyris, formerly on the staff of the Center Union organ Ethnos and for many years a correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor. In none of these cases have any charges been announced. But Takis Desalernos, sports editor of Vima, was arrested on the charge that he had said publicly—which presumably means in the presence of one of the junta's agents or informers—that the government was incapable of dealing with the country's problems and was leading it to bankruptcy.

AND OTHERS

Another of those arrested was Professor Dimitrios Evrigenis, a distinguished authority on international law, who had held various posts under conservative governments. Meanwhile the usual arrests of less prominent citizens, individually or en masse, continued. Thus in the first several days of July, it was reported that forty persons were arrested in Kalamata; this number, in a town of about 32,000 people, is the equivalent of ten thousand arrests in New York. At the same time a large number of arrests were reported from Salonika; in both cases most of those arrested seem to have been supporters of the Center Union. Other arrests, including a number of students belonging to the organization Rigos Ferraios, took place in Athens. A mass trial of persons accused of belonging to the Patriotic Front was expected in Salonika later in the month.

in Salonika later in the month.

Retired Admiral Athanasios Spanides, former director-general of the rightist National Radical Union (ERE), and Harry Karatzas, former leader of its youth group, are also among those recently arrested. Admiral Spanides has at various times headed the Greek Naval Academy and represented Greece in SHAPE; he was also for many years head of the Greek Atomic Energy Commission. Others arrested, reportedly as supporters of the King, include several high officers of the navy, air force, and police.

GUN CONTROL

HON. JOSEPH G. MINISH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1968

Mr. MINISH. Mr. Speaker, I am greatly disappointed that the House of Representatives has rejected strong and effective gun control legislation. True, the ban on mail-order sales of most guns and some ammunition contained in H.R. 17735 is at least a first step toward halting our country's dangerous traffic in death and destruction. However, much more is required if the Congress is to recognized that our laws should realistically meet the problem of guns in a modern, industrial, and urban society in the second half of the 20th century.

The essential means of controlling the indiscriminate sale and use of firearms is through the registration of all guns and the licensing of all gun owners. Gun registration would impose no great hardship on the citizen who possesses firearms for legitimate purposes such as hunting or target shooting. On the other hand, registration would enable law enforcement officials to trace weapons involved in crimes and account for all firearms in a particular locality. Requiring an individual to meet certain standards prior to obtaining a license to purchase a gun would assist in preventing firearms from falling into the hands of persons whose age, criminal record, or mental instability disqualifies them as competent to possess guns.

Mr. Speaker, every poll indicates that the overwhelming majority of American citizens favor strict gun laws. In fact, a recent Gallup survey found 73 percent of all Americans in favor of gun registration. Moreover, according to a Harris poll, conducted before the tragic assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy, 65 percent of America's gun owners favor the registration of all firearms.

With the rejection of amendments to H.R. 17735 requiring registration and licensing, the National Rifle Association and similar groups have again worked their will on the Congress of the United States despite the overwhelming public outcry for stringent gun control. Through distortion and innuendo, the NRA has successfully opposed each and every attempt over the last several years to introduce a measure of sanity to our Nation's gun laws. Reportedly the NRA found it could "live with" the legislation passed by the House of Representatives on July 24. No wonder. One amendment to the mail-order measure, approved by the House by a vote of 225 to 198, exempts people, organizations, and institutions engaged in firearms competition from most of the provisions of the bill. The most prominent, perhaps the only, "organization" which qualifies for exemption under this amendment is the National Rifle Association.

Mr. Speaker, surely in the last analysis the public interest must triumph over the narrow special interest of the gun lobby. We need a gun control law which will give all our citizens the kind of protection that has been too long denied

them. I shall continue to devote my energy to the passage of legislation providing for the meaningful control of firearms.

APPEAL FOR AID TO BIAFRA

HON. ROBERT McCLORY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 1968

Mr. McCLORY. Mr. Speaker, in Biafra, death strikes everywhere—in hospitals, in mission stations, even by the roadside. At the Okpala Mission, the Reverend Ken Doheny is close to weeping as 7,000 children assemble at dusk, their bony hands outstretched.

They used to come here every night for a little soup—milk or bean.

He reports.

Now we have nothing left. This is a children's war. They are all doomed, the lot of them.

At the same time, Col. Benjamin Adekunle, the commander of the Nigerian Army of invasion, called the idea of massive relief for the starving Biafrans "misguided humanitarian rubbish." The colonel said, "if children must die first, then it is too bad, just to bad." ²

The American people are perhaps the most humanitarian known to history. We have always been quick to share our material abundance with the people of other lands who have suffered such catastrophes as famines, floods, and fire. The refugee, whether he be in Europe, Asia, or Africa, has always received a sympathetic helping hand from the American people. We have proven in countless instances that we are ready and willing to be our "brother's keeper." Today, America is better equipped than ever before to aid the millions of hungry, homeless, and destitude people of the world. Unfortunately, at no time in history has our assistance been so urgently required.

I refer specifically to the plight of the starving populace and, more especially, the children of Biafra. Although located in one of the richest areas in all of Africa, the people of Biafra are faced with mass starvation, which will claim 2 million lives by the end of August. This very day, over 3,000 people, most of them little children, will die from starvation in

Food is available, but that is not the problem. Charitable relief organizations stand ready to provide the 200 tons of food and nutrition the Biafran people need daily to stave off starvation. But, a political impasse between the two sides has ruined arrangements for its delivery. Meanwhile, 1 million children, such as the ones Father Doheny must face each evening with empty hands, will die before the end of this month.

The Biafrans fear poisoning and thus refuse to accept food brought through unprotected land corridors. At the same time, the Nigerian Government refuses to allow an airlift to Biafra, even if given

¹ New York Times, July 30.

² New York Times, July 14.

August 2, 1968

the opportunity to inspect the cargo before delivery.

I say there is no longer time to argue about the means of delivering the food to these starving people. The civilized world, and the United States in particular as the international defender of life and liberty, has a moral and ethical obligation to overcome the thorny problem of political nonintervention and to act immediately to see that food is taken into the area by a massive air and sea lift and by overland relief columns.

The Nigerian and Biafran Governments must be urged to accept the establishment of demilitarized land, sea, and air corridors for the shipment of food and medicine both to Biafra and to the neighboring territories under Nigerian control.

The United States must endorse and strive to achieve the implementation of a demilitarized zone that would be policed by an international force, preferably supplied by the United Nations.

As a neutral nation, the United States can provide food by guaranteeing the Nigerian Government that no military supplies will be included in shipments and by seeing that food shipments will be internationally supervised to insure Biafrans against poisoning. We can make available both food and transportation facilities to international and charitable relief organizations.

If Congress is going to act on this matter as it, in all conscience, should, it must be before the August 2 recess date. By September 4, any action would come to late for 2 million dead Biafrans. As the New York Post stated in an editorial on July 13:

From time to time the universal consience of mankind is aroused by something as tersible as what is happening in Biafra. The universal conscience must be brought full force upon both sides in the Nigeria (/Biafra) struggle. Events in Nigeria (/Biafra) have reached the stage where there is only one side and one recourse; the name of humanity ...

The editorial goes on to say that humanity demands that we all work for the "purpose of getting the desperately needed protein into those tiny bodies with the swollen bellies.'

SOVIET THREATS OF ARMED INTER-VENTION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA EXPOSE SOVIET HYPOCRISY

HON. DONALD M. FRASER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, August 1, 1968

Mr. FRASER, Mr. Speaker, the recent threats by the U.S.S.R. to intervene militarily in the affairs of Czechoslovakia lay bare the hypocricy of Soviet statements about U.S. policy.

While many elements of U.S. policy are justly called into question by citizens of the United States, statements of criticism by the Soviet Union have a hollow ring when measured against the blatant threat to employ military force against Czechoslovakia, a neighbor who offers no military threat to the U.S.S.R.

Some weeks ago, under the pretext of honor and privilege of meeting this Warsaw pact maneuvers, thousands of Soviet troops moved into Czechoslovakia where some of them apparently still remain in spite of repeated Czech requests that they be withdrawn,

As if that were not enough, the Soviets have now commenced a new series of massive maneuvers placing Soviet. East German, and Polish troops in the vicinity of Czechoslovakia's eastern borders.

The proximity of these troops to Czech territory, combined with the steady stream of invective from Soviet newspapers, cannot be construed as anything else but a brazen attempt to intimidate the Czech Government,

These actions belie the assertions of the Soviet Union about the rights of other nations to peacefully pursue their own affairs.

Mr. Speaker, I am relieved that the news today offers some hope that active intervention by military forces of the Soviet Union will not occur in Czechoslovakia. The U.S.S.R., however, will spend many years overcoming the effect of its actions of the past few weeks. Every neighbor of the Soviet Union can now recognize that respect for the rights of other nations is conditioned by the ideological rigidity which apparently marks current Soviet attitudes.

HON, BARRATT O'HARA

HON. PHILIP J. PHILBIN

OF MASSACHUSETIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, August 1, 1968

Mr. PHILBIN. Mr. Speaker, in common with all the Members of this House. I deeply regret the departure from the House at the end of this session of our wonderful, outstanding friend, one of the of the most colorful Members of our great legislative body, and a truly celebrated colleague and beloved friend, the Honorable Barratt O'Hara.

No words of mine could ever portray the outstanding qualities, the superlative dedication, the magnificent achievements of this great leader of our great democracy, not only during his service here, but throughout his life.

His entire career has been profoundly dedicated to the public interest, to his district and State, and to this great Nation, which he has served with all his heart and every ounce of energy and ability.

BARRATT O'HARA is a man of great impetus and compassion for the weak, the forgotten and the downtrodden. Truly, he has given his life's work to the uplift of those who cannot help themselves, and to the perpetuation of the ideals and security of our great free Nation.

I had heard of this great American long before he or I ever came to the Congress. The late and very great Chicago lawyer and philosopher, the noted Clarence Darrow, during my early youth, my close personal friend, used to talk to me of Barratt long before I had the

gifted, devoted, humanistic leader.

The great Clarence Darrow once said to me of BARRATT: "He is the outstanding liberal in our city and State and one of the great leaders of true democracy in this country. We must be thankful to him for his many battles for the common people,'

We will miss him here but he has left with us a great legacy of honest, enlightened public service, warm, unselfish friendship, loyalty and inspired leadership that will be a source of strength and a guide to us in our endeavors.

His great achievements in this body will be inscribed and gratefully remembered in this body for many years to come by a truly appreciative Nation which recognizes the debt it owes to this unffinching tattler for social justice.

I wish for BARRATT, and all his dear ones, continued good health, success in their undertakings, and choicest blessings of real happiness, contentment, and peace for many years to come.

THE CAPTIVE NATIONS STILL CAPTIVE

HON. EDWARD J. DERWINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Thursday, August 1, 1963

Mr. DERWINSKI, Mr. Speaker, among the many themes sounded this past Captive Nations Week was the one underscoring the continued captivity of all the captive nations. An erroneous and dangerous impression has spread in some circles of our country that because of squabbles and rifts between various dominating Communist Parties, the captive nations-the peoples themselvesare no longer captive. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The peoples and nations of Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania, Ukraine, and others are under totalitarian Communist Party domination and far from the goal of genuine independence and freedom. This truth cannot be emphasized too often, and the 10th observance of Captive Nations Week served a major purpose by doing so.

Reports on the successful week have been flowing in steadily. Some examples of the week's activity are as follows: First, proclamations by Gov. Philip H. Hoff of Vermont and commissioners of Allegheny County, Pa.; second, a National Captive Nations Committee release on His Eminence Josyf Cardinal Slipyi third a release by the county of Allegheny commissioners and news and radio items on the week in both the Pittsburgh Press and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette; and fourth, a letter to the editor in the Washington area:

A PROCLAMATION BY PHILIP H. HOFF, GOVER-NOR OF THE STATE OF VERMONT

Whereas, the imperialistic polices of Russian Communists have led, through direct and in-lirect aggression, to the subjugation and ensiavement of the peoples of Poland, Hungary, Lithuania, Ukraine, Ezechoslova-kia, Latvia, Estonia, White Ruthenia, Rumania, East Germany, Bulgaria, Mainland